

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 184
By Wilder

A RESOLUTION to urge the Congress of the United States to restore state and local sales tax deductibility from Federal income tax.

WHEREAS, the viability of the Federal system of government of the United States has endured through the history of this republic through the diligence of governmental officials in adjusting to evolving economic, social and political conditions to preserve equity and fairness; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, amendments to the Internal Revenue Code eliminated the option to deduct state and local sales taxes paid by citizens from their income as reported on Federal income tax forms, while the deductibility of state and local income taxes was preserved; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is one of a few states which do not have an income tax on salaries and wages; taxpayers in these several states do not enjoy the same advantages in deductions as do taxpayers in those states that do levy taxes on salaries and wages; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to restore equity, Representative Brady of Texas and others have introduced H.R. 720 to provide taxpayers with the option of deducting state and local sales taxes in lieu of state and local income taxes when computing Federal income tax liability; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of this State regard the passage of this measure as essential to the restoration of fairness in the administration of Federal income tax; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that this General Assembly hereby memorializes the Congress of the United States to act expeditiously to allow for the deduction of state and local sales taxes in the computation of Federal income tax liability, as would be allowed under the provisions of H.R. 720, now pending before the Congress.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this General Assembly memorializes each member of the United States Congress from Tennessee to utilize the full measure of his or her influence to effect the passage of Federal legislation providing for the deduction on the Federal income tax, and urges the Congressional delegations of our sister states of Alaska, Florida, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Texas, Washington and Wyoming to join in this effort.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States; the President and Secretary of the United States Senate; the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives; and to each member of the Congressional delegations of the states of Tennessee, Alaska, Florida, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Texas, Washington and Wyoming.